

H.P.S.

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



4 MAY 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. USSR

a. The wave of speculation on Kozlov has finally forced a statement out of Moscow.

b. Pravda says he has missed various affairs "because of illness." TASS says the announcement was made "in view of inquiries which have come in."

c. Mikoyan, too, could be ailing. He made the May Day parade but has missed other affairs.

2. Cambodia

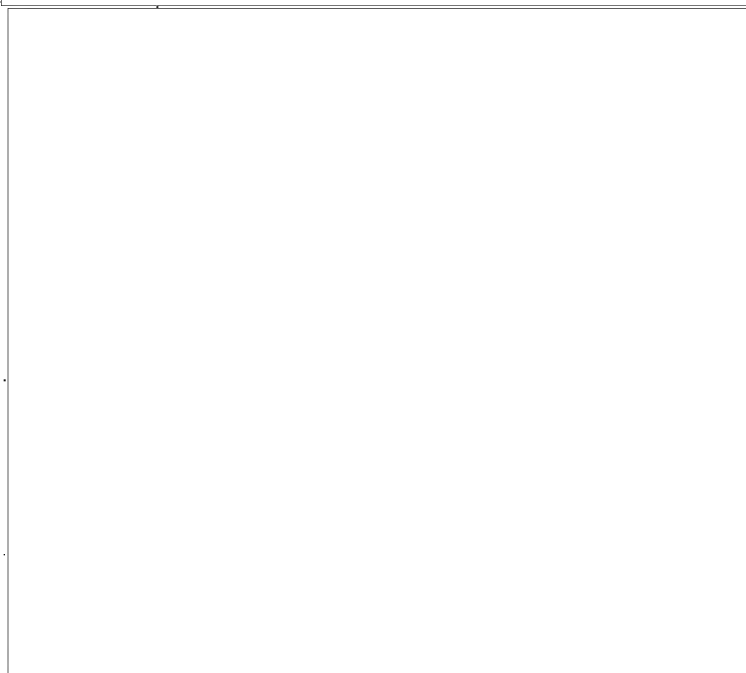
a. The Cambodians are taking massive security precautions during the visit of Chicom chief of state Liu Shao Chi.

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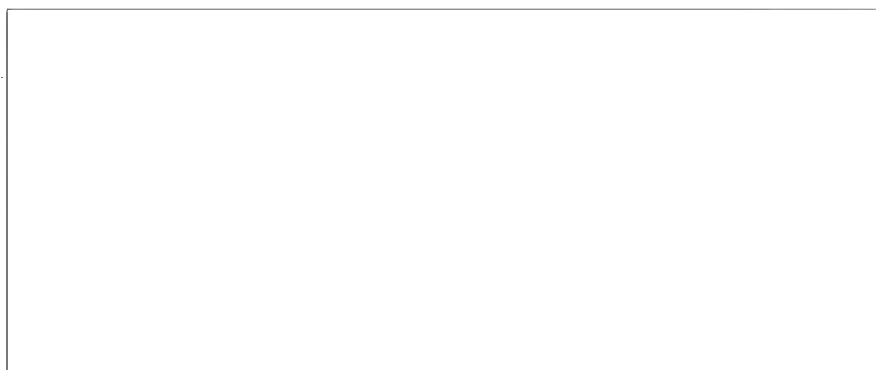
3. Jordan



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4. Syria-Egypt

a. Damascus--in the wake of the ouster of Nasirists from the Syrian army and the cabinet by the Baath socialist regime--is waiting for a reaction from Cairo. Additional troops and security forces have been moved into the city.

b. Meanwhile, probably hoping to undercut Nasir's appeal as a radical, the Syrian leaders have moved against conservative elements--by nationalizing all banks, dismissing several moderate civil servants from economic posts, and stripping old-line politicians of their political rights.

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d. Cairo last night announced the postponement of Iraqi-Syrian-Egyptian military talks.

5. Yemen

a. A senior Saudi official has again insisted--this time to the UN's General Von Horn--that "on his personal word of honor" the border with Yemen has been closed since 28 April. He swears it will remain closed except--and this could cause trouble--for the transport of food and medicines.

b. Von Horn heard from the Egyptians that, in addition to a military training mission, they intend to keep in Yemen a "security force," totalling 6,000 men. Faysal will not be happy about this.

6. Haiti - Dominican Republic

a. Bosch is still breathing fire and brimstone.

b. He says that even if the OAS voted sanctions against Haiti, he would try to subvert Duvalier-- and says he is in touch with Haitian army elements. "If one Dominican is hurt" in Haiti, he will take military action.

c. On the side, he has admitted to Ambassador Martin that he is "opportunistic" and that the Haitian crisis has given him time to get his domestic program going.

d. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Martial law now reigns.

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Vene-
zuela would be willing to send token forces.

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g. He has suggested a gimmick to Ambassador Thurston: an OAS request for US Marines to protect foreign embassies sheltering asylees.

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7. Cuba

a. Tighter Mexican procedures for processing travelers going to and from Cuba are apparently touching the communists in a delicate spot--the purse.

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f. An attempt at an uprising could be forthcoming, but we doubt that the groups in on the plan.

have a real chance of success.

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h. Photography of 2 May shows that the launchers and guidance equipment are still missing from the Campo Florido cruise missile site--since 29 April. A convoy of 24 vehicles is still lined up outside. We can only speculate that a mobility exercise is involved, or that they are being moved to a new site--for which we have found no candidate.

8. Ethiopia

a. Further information indicates that Haile Selassie faces pressures from two camps.

b. One [redacted] predominantly conservative and led by the minister of defense, has "petitioned" the Emperor with a demand for a constitutional monarchy. It apparently seeks to forestall changes and reforms sought by more radical, predominantly military elements--who have the support of the army and air force commanders and three of the army's four division commanders.

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c.

there will be no action until after the African Summit Conference there 23-25 May, but security forces will be preoccupied then with protecting VIP's and it could be a tempting period for plotters.

9. Laos

a. The episode of the ICC helicopters is not yet completely clear, and the facts are emerging slowly.

b. At last report, except for a French sergeant and a Laotian neutralist who escaped, the mixed group aboard the two choppers appears to have been taken off to Khang Khay by the Pathet Lao.

c. Predictably, the Pathet Lao radio is charging that Kong Le engineered the whole affair--"a savage and cruel act...aimed at creating an unfavorable atmosphere for the talks."



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NOTES

- A. Iraq During a long talk Wednesday with US representatives in Baghdad, the Iraqi defense minister claimed that the day before the Soviet ambassador had presented an offer of "full political, economic and military assistance" in return for the release of Communist prisoners and permission for the party "loyally to cooperate with the government."

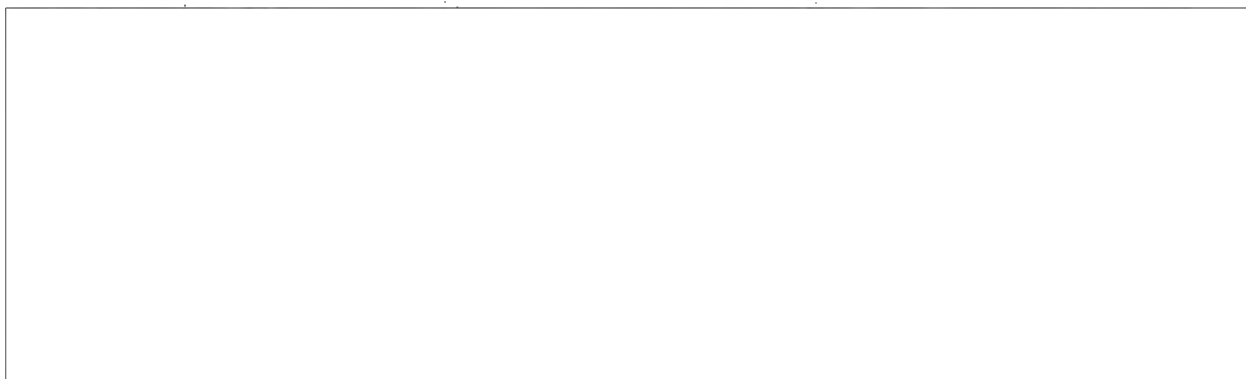


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- C. France 
 underground nuclear test in the Sahara.
There may be as many as three before the end of June.

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F. USSR A Soviet fishing fleet--over thirty ships by the end of April--is now operating 50 to 100 miles off the Atlantic coast between Montauk Point and Cape Henlopen, Delaware. The catch is good and more ships may show up.

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G. Italy The US embassy thinks a temporary caretaker government "is apt to be formed"--most likely a center left coalition, but without Fanfani. It doubts there will be a stable government for some time.

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DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

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